



# Snaefellsnes

***Mountains to the sea, ride with the tide!***

Ride over mountains, valleys, lava, volcanoes

Farmhouse accommodations with hot pot!

Several days on the beach!

9 days/ 6 days on horseback

...2015

**Snaefellsnes peninsula contains many of the most recognized sights in Iceland; the glacier covered cone volcano Snaefellsjökull, famous from “Journey to the Center of the Earth”, maritime villages with whales and seals off shore, rich valleys known from the Sagas and home to elves, trolls and ancient sorcerers. There’s mountains, lava fields, and rare bright sand beaches - and this special tour offers a chance to experience this panoply of Icelandic landscape - which could be called Iceland in a Nutshell.**

Your hosts, Siggí and Ólöf have been training horses and riding on Snaefellsnes for over 20 years, and they convey the sense that the ride goes through their big back yard. Their farmhouse - Stóri-Kálfalækur - will be your base for much of the ride, with a couple of nights in other guesthouses along the trail. Hot pots provide a nice ending to most days rides!!

## **Friday:**

Travelers from North America leave for Iceland on an overnight flight with an early morning arrival at Keflavik Airport in Iceland.

## **Saturday:**

### **Welcome to Iceland**

After arrival at Keflavik International Airport you will be taken to Reykjavik where you will check into your hotel and have some time to explore Iceland’s capital city. Then at the outfitters Riding Center, you will get meet your fellow riders, as well have a traditional meal of Icelandic soup.

## **Sunday:**

### **Stóri-Kálfalækur – Grímsstaðir**

After breakfast, you’ll go north and west to Stóri-Kálfalækur Farm, and meet your guides and horses. You’ll get a helmet, raingear and saddle, and have an introduction to the special qualities of the Icelandic horse. You’ll put this into action, with a ride through green valleys, and over mountains to Grímsstaðir Farm with its proud history dating back to medieval times. The horses will stay here, while riders return to Stóri-Kálfalækur where a hot tub beckons! (30 km)

## **Monday:**

### **Grímsstaðir – Hítarhólmur**

You’ll ride through multicolored mountains to the geologic paradise low . Hítardalur. Here you’ll go on riding trails through a lunar landscape of vast lava fields, with volcanic ashes which has a lot of saga history in it as well. The horses will spend the night at Hítarhólmur mountain while riders return to Stóri-Kálfalækur, (30 km)

## **Tuesday:**

### **Hítarhólmur – Kolviðarnes – Laugagerði Schoolhouse**

The morning continues through the mystical volcanic valley with a stop at the sheep round up corral Hítardalsrétt - where you may also glimpse Hít, the troll woman who was turned into stone returning late from a date. (it’s a long story!) Then you’ll cross the Hítará River and through an area known as a shelter for out of Iceland’s most famous outlaw, Grettir, before arriving at Kolviðarnes Farm. The horses stay here, and riders have sleeping bag accommodations at Laugagerði Schoolhouse, which has a warm geothermal swimming pool! (45 km)

**Our Prices include flights, taxes, fuel charges and a number of “extras”. Details inside.**

**Horses North, LLC** Toll free 888 686-6784 Email: [hn@icelandadventure.com](mailto:hn@icelandadventure.com)

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## Wednesday:

### Laugagerði – Traðir – Hof Farm

Today's the day -- hit the beach! You'll start your ride on Löngufjörur, the famous horse trail on the golden sands of Snaefellsnes peninsula. Under the watchful eye of Snaefellsjökull Glacier, you'll be able to feel the horses'

excitement as they carry you swiftly along this extraordinary trail!! The horses spend the night at Traðir Farm while riders stay at Hof Farm with a geothermal hot tub on site. (40 km)

*In the evening there's an optional excursion to Arnastapi and Hellnar, which are at the base of Mt Snaefellsjökull. You can learn more about the natural, supernatural and cultural history of this special area at the Visitors Center for Snaefellsnes National Park. Cost per person for this outing is ISK 4000. (About \$35)*

## Thursday:

### Hof – Traðir – Kolviðarnes – Stóri-Kálfalækur

Another day's ride on the yellow colored, sandy beach. We change direction and head back towards the mighty Eldborgarhraun lava field. A unique experience for everyone with lava-fields and mountains on one side of the trail and the Atlantic Ocean on the other. We leave the horses at Kolviðarnes Farm and drive to Stóri-Kálfalækur, where we spend the last two nights. (40 km)

## Friday:

### Kolviðarnes – Stóri-Kálfalækur Farm

Last day on the beach and yet a new experience. The sand turns black as we follow the outline of Eldborgarhraun lava field. Imagine the black lava still on the move on your way back to dry land.

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The ride ends at Stóri-Kálfalækur Farm, where we enjoy Ólöf's farewell dinner. (30 km)

## Saturday:

### Stóri-Kálfalækur – Reykjavík – Keflavik Airport

After breakfast, you can say good-bye to the guides and horses and head back to Reykjavík where you'll arrive about 11:30 AM. You'll have that night in a hotel room, giving you some time to enjoy Reykjavík!

## Sunday:

### Keflavik and home

After breakfast you can see more of the city or soak in a swimming pool or the Blue Lagoon - depending on your flights.

We'll send a gear list -- knee high rubber riding boots are essential for this ride!

## Travel Dates

The Snaefellsnes Ride runs only 7 times in the summer of 2015. Below are travel dates--and it's easy to add a couple days on either end, if you want to see a bit more Iceland. Your arrival day in Iceland is always a transfer day, which allows you to rest from the short night of sleep on the flight, before you start riding on the second day.

Lv N America	Return N America
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
June 12	June 21
June 19	June 28
July 3	July 12
July 10	July 19
July 31	Aug 9
Aug 7	Aug 16
Aug 21	Aug 30

P.O. Box 475  
Millerton, NY 12546 USA  
Toll Free 888 686-6784  
From Europe 01 518 789-4890  
Email: [hn@icelandadventure.com](mailto:hn@icelandadventure.com)

**Ride over mountains, valleys, lava,  
Farm accommodations with hot pot!  
Several days on the beach!  
8 day tour with 6 riding days  
2015**

## Prices

The price for this Snaefellsnes Tour is **\$3960** per person double occupancy, **\$4145** single supplement.

**Finer Print: Price includes** international airfare from the US east coast\*, airport transfers and any pre and post ride accommodations needed. The ride itself includes 7 nights and 6 days of riding. Pre and post rights are in double rooms with private bath, and during the ride you'll have shared rooms, made up beds for four nights, and sleeping bags (which are provided) for two nights. **Meals:** breakfast on Reykjavik days, and all meals during the ride, an Icelandic breakfast buffet, a packed lunch on the trail, and a hearty home cooked dinner, usually featuring lamb and fish.

**\*Flights Price includes** round trip airfare, including fuel surcharge and US departure taxes to Iceland, from Icelandair's east coast gateways - Boston, New York, Newark and Washington Dulles International. We can also book flights from Icelandair's other gateways: Minneapolis, Denver, Seattle, Portland, Anchorage, Toronto, Edmonton, and Halifax, which may add to the price. Not all gateways have daily departures but we can arrange additional nights accommodations before or after your tour.

**\*Not included** are Travel Insurance, lunch on arrival, last riding and departure day, dinner back in Reykjavik after your last riding day, any extra time in Iceland before or after the ride.

**Finest print.** Please note that our tour prices are subject to revision until you book your tour by making a deposit. Our contract rates for air aren't always available as we get close to travel dates. While we make every effort to keep prices on our webpages and their PDFs up to the minute, things can change quickly. We welcome phone calls or email about prices and any other details.